

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference JCD/MK/X8444 | FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below. | |
| International application No. PCT/GB 01/ 02146 | International filing date (day/month/year) 16/05/2001 | (Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 24/05/2000 |
| Applicant VIRTUAL VIDEO UK Ltd | | |

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 3 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☒ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

ANIMATION METHOD AND DEVICE WITH SYNCHRONISED AUDIO OUTPUT

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

1

☐ None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/GB 01/02146

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G09F19/08 G09F19/14 G03B25/02 G03B31/06 G02B27/22

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G09F G03B A63H G02B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

WPI Data, EPO-Internal, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| X | EP 0 982 701 A (EASTMAN KODAK CO) 1 March 2000 (2000-03-01) cited in the application | 1, 14 |
| A | column 6, line 40 - line 58 column 7, line 1 - line 30 figures 10,12 | 2-13, 15-35 |
| A | US 5 004 442 A (LEMELSON JEROME H ET AL) 2 April 1991 (1991-04-02) column 5, line 36 - line 42 column 7, line 17 - line 30 figures | 1-35 |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

* & * document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

25 October 2001

Date of mailing of the international search report

09/11/2001

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Ward, S

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/GB 01/02146

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-----------------------|
| A | US 4 107 462 A (ASIJA SATYA PAL) 15 August 1978 (1978-08-15) column 1, line 12 - line 15 column 4, line 42 - line 68 column 5, line 1 - line 23 figures --- | 1-35 |
| A | US 2 871 593 A (ROBERTS CHARLES W) 3 February 1959 (1959-02-03) column 4, line 48 - line 63 figures --- | 1-35 |
| A | GB 2 304 252 A (BURDER DAVID GIFFORD) 12 March 1997 (1997-03-12) cited in the application page 8, paragraph 3 - paragraph 4 figures --- | 1-35 |
| A | US 2 867 049 A (HARRY BRACKENSEY AUGUSTE) 6 January 1959 (1959-01-06) column 10, line 11 - line 18; figures --- | 1-35 |
| A | US 4 642 710 A (MURTHA EUGENE A ET AL) 10 February 1987 (1987-02-10) column 3, line 1 - line 58 column 4 column 5, line 1 - line 28 figures --- | 1-35 |
| A | US 4 207 704 A (AKIYAMA MINEO) 17 June 1980 (1980-06-17) abstract; figures --- | 1-35 |
| A | US 4 139 968 A (MILNER RONALD E) 20 February 1979 (1979-02-20) abstract; figures ----- | 1-35 |

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB 01/02146

| Patent document cited in search report | | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
|---|---|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| EP 0982701 | A | 01-03-2000 | EP 0982701 A2 | 01-03-2000 |
| | | | JP 2000075426 A | 14-03-2000 |
| US 5004442 | A | 02-04-1991 | NONE | |
| US 4107462 | A | 15-08-1978 | NONE | |
| US 2871593 | A | 03-02-1959 | NONE | |
| GB 2304252 | A | 12-03-1997 | AU 5428896 A | 05-03-1997 |
| | | | WO 9706524 A1 | 20-02-1997 |
| US 2867049 | A | 06-01-1959 | NONE | |
| US 4642710 | A | 10-02-1987 | NONE | |
| US 4207704 | A | 17-06-1980 | JP 1324170 C | 27-06-1986 |
| | | | JP 53049545 A | 06-05-1978 |
| | | | JP 60050469 B | 08-11-1985 |
| | | | DE 2659250 A1 | 20-04-1978 |
| US 4139968 | A | 20-02-1979 | DE 2818987 A1 | 16-11-1978 |
| | | | FR 2389393 A1 | 01-12-1978 |
| | | | GB 1576679 A | 15-10-1980 |
| | | | JP 53137732 A | 01-12-1978 |
| | | | SE 7805064 A | 03-11-1978 |

PCT

REQUEST

The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

For receiving Office use only

International Application No.

International Filing Date

Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application"

Applicant's or agent's file reference
(if desired) (12 characters maximum) JCD/MK/X8444

| | |
|--|--|
| Box No. I TITLE OF INVENTION | |
| Novelty animated device with synchronised audio output, and method for achieving synchronised audio output | |
| Box No. II APPLICANT | |
| <p>Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)</p> <p>Virtual Video UK Ltd Fernbank House Springwood Way Tytherington Business Park Macclesfield SK10 2XA GB</p> | |
| <p><input type="checkbox"/> This person is also inventor.</p> <p>Telephone No.</p> <p>Facsimile No.</p> <p>Teleprinter No.</p> | |
| State (that is, country) of nationality: GB | State (that is, country) of residence: GB |
| <p>This person is applicant for the purposes of: <input type="checkbox"/> all designated States <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> all designated States except the United States of America <input type="checkbox"/> the United States of America only <input type="checkbox"/> the States indicated in the Supplemental Box</p> | |
| Box No. III FURTHER APPLICANT(S) AND/OR (FURTHER) INVENTOR(S) | |
| <p>Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (that is, country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)</p> <p>KAY Robert 4 Prestbury Road Wilmslow Cheshire GB</p> | |
| <p>This person is: <input type="checkbox"/> applicant only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> applicant and inventor <input type="checkbox"/> inventor only (If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)</p> | |
| State (that is, country) of nationality: GB | State (that is, country) of residence: GB |
| <p>This person is applicant for the purposes of: <input type="checkbox"/> all designated States <input type="checkbox"/> all designated States except the United States of America <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the United States of America only <input type="checkbox"/> the States indicated in the Supplemental Box</p> | |
| <p><input type="checkbox"/> Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicated on a continuation sheet.</p> | |
| Box No. IV AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE; OR ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE | |
| <p>The person identified below is hereby/has been appointed to act on behalf of the applicant(s) before the competent International Authorities as: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agent <input type="checkbox"/> common representative</p> | |
| <p>Name and address: (Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.)</p> <p>Bailey Walsh & Co 5 York Place Leeds LS1 2SD GB</p> | |
| <p>Telephone No. 0113 243 3824</p> <p>Facsimile No. 0113 244 5699</p> <p>Teleprinter No.</p> | |
| <p><input type="checkbox"/> Address for correspondence: Mark this check-box where no agent or common representative is/has been appointed and the space above is used instead to indicate a special address to which correspondence should be sent.</p> | |

| Box No.V | DESIGNATION OF STATES |
|--|---|
| The following designations are hereby made under Rule 4.9(a) (mark the applicable check-boxes; at least one must be marked): | |
| Regional Patent | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AP | ARIPO Patent: GH Ghana, GM Gambia, KE Kenya, LS Lesotho, MW Malawi, MZ Mozambique, SD Sudan, SL Sierra Leone, SZ Swaziland, TZ United Republic of Tanzania, UG Uganda, ZW Zimbabwe, and any other State which is a Contracting State of the Harare Protocol and of the PCT |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EA | Eurasian Patent: AM Armenia, AZ Azerbaijan, BY Belarus, KG Kyrgyzstan, KZ Kazakhstan, MD Republic of Moldova, RU Russian Federation, TJ Tajikistan, TM Turkmenistan, and any other State which is a Contracting State of the Eurasian Patent Convention and of the PCT |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EP | European Patent: AT Austria, BE Belgium, CH and LI Switzerland and Liechtenstein, CY Cyprus, DE Germany, DK Denmark, ES Spain, FI Finland, FR France, GB United Kingdom, GR Greece, IE Ireland, IT Italy, LU Luxembourg, MC Monaco, NL Netherlands, PT Portugal, SE Sweden, TR Turkey, and any other State which is a Contracting State of the European Patent Convention and of the PCT |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OA | OAPI Patent: BF Burkina Faso, BJ Benin, CF Central African Republic, CG Congo, CI Côte d'Ivoire, CM Cameroon, GA Gabon, GN Guinea, GW Guinea-Bissau, ML Mali, MR Mauritania, NE Niger, SN Senegal, TD Chad, TG Togo, and any other State which is a member State of OAPI and a Contracting State of the PCT (if other kind of protection or treatment desired, specify on dotted line) |
| National Patent (if other kind of protection or treatment desired, specify on dotted line): | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AE | United Arab Emirates |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AG | Antigua and Barbuda |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AL | Albania |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AM | Armenia |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AT | Austria |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AU | Australia |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AZ | Azerbaijan |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BA | Bosnia and Herzegovina |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BB | Barbados |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BG | Bulgaria |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BR | Brazil |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BY | Belarus |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BZ | Belize |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CA | Canada |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CH and LI | Switzerland and Liechtenstein |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CN | China |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CR | Costa Rica |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CU | Cuba |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CZ | Czech Republic |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DE | Germany |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DZ | Algeria |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> KG | Kyrgyzstan |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> KP | Democratic People's Republic of Korea |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> KR | Republic of Korea |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> KZ | Kazakhstan |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LC | Saint Lucia |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LK | Sri Lanka |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LS | Lesotho |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LT | Lithuania |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LV | Latvia |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MD | Republic of Moldova |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MK | The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SI | Slovenia |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SK | Slovakia |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SL | Sierra Leone |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TJ | Tajikistan |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TM | Turkmenistan |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TR | Turkey |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TT | Trinidad and Tobago |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TZ | United Republic of Tanzania |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UA | Ukraine |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UG | Uganda |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> US | United States of America |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UZ | Uzbekistan |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VN | Viet Nam |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YU | Yugoslavia |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ZA | South Africa |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ZW | Zimbabwe |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Check-box reserved for designating States which have become party to the PCT after issuance of this sheet: |
| Precautionary Designation Statement: In addition to the designations made above, the applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) all other designations which would be permitted under the PCT except any designation(s) indicated in the Supplemental Box as being excluded from the scope of this statement. The applicant declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. (Confirmation (including fees) must reach the receiving Office within the 15-month time limit.) | |

| Box No. VI PRIORITY CLAIM | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further priority claims are indicated in the Supplemental Box. | | |
|--|----------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Filing date of earlier application (day/month/year) | Number of earlier application | Where earlier application is: | | |
| | | national application: country | regional application:* regional Office | international application: receiving Office |
| item (1) 24/05/2000 | 0012470.1 | GB | | |
| item (2) 05/07/2000 | 0016517.5 | GB | | |
| item (3) 18/07/2000 | 0017548.9 | GB | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) (only if the earlier application was filed with the Office which for the purposes of the present international application is the receiving Office) identified above as item(s): _____ | | | | |
| <small>* Where the earlier application is an ARIPO application, it is mandatory to indicate in the Supplemental Box at least one country party to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property for which that earlier application was filed (Rule 4.10(b)(ii)). See Supplemental Box.</small> | | | | |
| Box No. VII INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY | | | | |
| Choice of International Searching Authority (ISA) <small>(if two or more International Searching Authorities are competent to carry out the international search, indicate the Authority chosen; the two-letter code may be used) :</small> | | Request to use results of earlier search; reference to that search (if an earlier search has been carried out by or requested from the International Searching Authority): Date (day/month/year) Number Country (or regional Office) | | |
| ISA / | | | | |
| Box No. VIII CHECK LIST; LANGUAGE OF FILING | | | | |
| This international application contains the following number of sheets: request : 4 description (excluding sequence listing part) : 29 claims : 8 abstract : 1 drawings : 11 sequence listing part of description : _____ Total number of sheets : 53 | | This international application is accompanied by the item(s) marked below: 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fee calculation sheet 2. <input type="checkbox"/> separate signed power of attorney 3. <input type="checkbox"/> copy of general power of attorney; reference number, if any: 4. <input type="checkbox"/> statement explaining lack of signature 5. <input type="checkbox"/> priority document(s) identified in Box No. VI as item(s): 6. <input type="checkbox"/> translation of international application into (language): 7. <input type="checkbox"/> separate indications concerning deposited microorganism or other biological material 8. <input type="checkbox"/> nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing in computer readable form 9. <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify): | | |
| Figure of the drawings which should accompany the abstract: | | Language of filing of the international application: | | |
| Box No. IX SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT OR AGENT | | | | |
| <small>Next to each signature, indicate the name of the person signing and the capacity in which the person signs (if such capacity is not obvious from reading the request).</small> | | | | |
| Bailey Walsh & Co - Representative | | | | |

| | |
|--|--|
| For receiving Office use only | |
| 1. Date of actual receipt of the purported international application: 3. Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application: 4. Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2): 5. International Searching Authority (if two or more are competent): ISA / | 2. Drawings: <input type="checkbox"/> received: <input type="checkbox"/> not received: |
| 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Transmittal of search copy delayed until search fee is paid. | |

| |
|---|
| For International Bureau use only |
| Date of receipt of the record copy by the International Bureau: |

PRIORITY CLAIM

| Filing Date | Number of earlier application | National Application: Country |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| item (4) 03/08/2000 | 0018940.7 | GB |
| item (5) 10/11/2000 | 0027656.8 | GB |
| item (6) 14/11/2000 | 0027717.8 | GB |
| item (7) 14/11/2000 | 0027719.4 | GB |

PCT

FEE CALCULATION SHEET Annex to the Request

For receiving Office use only

International application No.

Date stamp of the receiving Office

Applicant's or agent's
file reference JCD/MK/X8444-GB and 6 others

Applicant

Virtual Video UK Ltd and Robert Kay

CALCULATION OF PRESCRIBED FEES

1. TRANSMITTAL FEE 55.00 T

2. SEARCH FEE 624.00 S

International search to be carried out by

(If two or more International Searching Authorities are competent in relation to the international application, indicate the name of the Authority which is chosen to carry out the international search.)

3. INTERNATIONAL FEE

Basic Fee

The international application contains 53 sheets.

first 30 sheets 264.00 b1

23 x 6 = 138.00 b2

remaining sheets additional amount

Add amounts entered at b1 and b2 and enter total at B 402.00 B

Designation Fees

The international application contains 87 designations.

6 x 56 = 336.00 D

number of designation fees amount of designation fee payable (maximum 6)

Add amounts entered at B and D and enter total at I 738.00 I

(Applicants from certain States are entitled to a reduction of 75% of the international fee. Where the applicant is (or all applicants are) so entitled, the total to be entered at I is 25% of the sum of the amounts entered at B and D.)

4. FEE FOR PRIORITY DOCUMENT (if applicable) 154.00 P

5. TOTAL FEES PAYABLE 1571.00

Add amounts entered at T, S, I and P, and enter total in the TOTAL box

TOTAL

☐ The designation fees are not paid at this time.

MODE OF PAYMENT

☐ authorization to charge deposit account (see below)

☐ bank draft

☐ coupons

☒ cheque

☐ cash

☐ other (specify):

☐ postal money order

☐ revenue stamps

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT AUTHORIZATION (this mode of payment may not be available at all receiving Offices)

The RO/ ☐ is hereby authorized to charge the total fees indicated above to my deposit account.

☐ (this check-box may be marked only if the conditions for deposit accounts of the receiving Office so permit) is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the total fees indicated above to my deposit account.

☐ is hereby authorized to charge the fee for preparation and transmittal of the priority document to the International Bureau of WIPO to my deposit account.

Deposit Account No.

Date (day/month/year)

Signature